

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-14 are Canceled.

15. (Previously presented) A method for treating a wound in a subject comprising the step of contacting the wound with a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a lactoferrin composition and a pharmaceutically acceptable polymer having a viscosity in the range of about 1 to about 12,000,000 cP at room temperature.
16. (Currently amended) A method of treating a wound, other than ophthalmic wounds or gastric or duodenal ulcers, comprising the step of administering to a subject, other than by buccal administration, a therapeutically effective amount of a lactoferrin composition.
17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said lactoferrin composition is administered topically, orally or parenterally.
18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said lactoferrin composition is administered orally.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising administering an antacid in conjunction with said lactoferrin composition.
20. (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising administering a standard wound healing therapy in combination with the lactoferrin composition.
21. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the administering comprises administering said composition for at least one week to at least twelve weeks.
22. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the amount of the lactoferrin that is administered is about 0.0001 µg to about 100 g per day.

23. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said composition is a topical gel, a solution, capsule or a tablet having a lactoferrin concentration of about 0.0001% to about 30%.
24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein said topical gel is composed from a polymer selected from the group of consisting of a vinyl polymer, polysaccharide polymer, glycosaminoglycan polymer, protein polymer, polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene polymer, and acrylamide polymer.
25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the polymer concentration is about 0.5% (w/w) to about 3.0% (w/w) and the polymer has a molecular weight of about 50,000 to about 13,000,000.
26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the wound is selected from the group consisting of skin wound, bone wound, internal wound, ~~gastrointestinal wound~~, oral wound, ophthalmic wound, and surgical wound.
27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the wound is further defined as a chronic wound.
28. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the wound is further defined as an acute wound.
29. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the chronic wound is selected from the group consisting of diabetic ulcer, venous stasis ulcer, pressure ulcer, and infected wound.
30. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the acute wound is selected from the group consisting of first degree burn, partial-thickness burn, full-thickness burn, laceration, bullet wound, and infected wound.
31. (Currently amended) A method of treating a wound, other than ophthalmic wounds or gastric or duodenal ulcers, comprising the step of supplementing the local immune

system in a subject by administering topically [[an]] a therapeutically effective amount of a lactoferrin composition in the vicinity of the wound.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the lactoferrin composition results in the killing of bacteria infecting the wound.
33. (Currently amended) A method of enhancing the local immune system in a subject suffering from a wound, other than ophthalmic wounds or gastric or duodenal ulcers, comprising the step of administering topically to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a lactoferrin composition.
34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the lactoferrin composition stimulates the production of a cytokine or a chemokine.
35. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the lactoferrin composition results in an inhibition of a cytokine or a chemokine.
36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the cytokine is selected from the group consisting of interleukin-18 (IL-18), interleukin-12 (IL-12), granulocyte/macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF), and gamma interferon (IFN- γ).
37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the chemokine is macrophage inflammatory protein 3 alpha (MIP-3 α), macrophage inflammatory protein 1 alpha (MIP-1 α), macrophage inflammatory protein 1 beta (MIP-1 β).
38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the cytokine is selected from the group consisting of interleukin-2 (IL-2), interleukin-4 (IL-4), interleukin-5 (IL-5), interleukin-10 (IL-10), and tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF- α).
39. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the lactoferrin composition inhibits the production of matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs).
40. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein interleukin-18 or granulocyte/macrophage colony-stimulating factor stimulates the production or activity of immune cells.

41. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein interleukin-18 or granulocyte/macrophage colony-stimulating factor stimulates the production or activity of cells involved in wound repair.
42. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein the immune cells are selected from the group consisting of T lymphocytes, natural killer cells, macrophages, dendritic cells, and polymorphonuclear cells.
43. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein the polymorphonuclear cells are neutrophils.
44. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein the T lymphocytes are selected from the group consisting of CD4+, CD8+ and CD3+ T cells.
45. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the cells involved in wound repair are selected from the group consisting of keratinocytes, endothelial cells, fibroblasts, dendritic cells and myofibroblasts.
46. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the inhibition of TNF-alpha further inhibits the migration and maturation of dendritic cells.
47. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein the dendritic cells are Langerhans cells.
48. (Currently amended) A method of treating a wound, other than ophthalmic wounds or gastric or duodenal ulcers, comprising the step of supplementing the systemic immune system in a subject by administering via a parenteral route [[an]] a therapeutically effective amount of a lactoferrin composition.
49. (Currently amended) A method of enhancing the systemic immune system of a subject suffering from a wound, other than ophthalmic wounds or gastric or duodenal ulcers, comprising the step of parenterally administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a lactoferrin composition.
50. (Currently amended) A method of treating a wound, other than ophthalmic wounds or gastric or duodenal ulcers, comprising the step of supplementing the mucosal immune

system in a subject by administering orally [[an]] a therapeutically effective amount of a lactoferrin composition.

- 51.** (Currently amended) A method of enhancing the mucosal immune system in a subject suffering from a wound, other than ophthalmic wounds or gastric or duodenal ulcers, comprising orally administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a lactoferrin composition.